The Semi-Weekly Louisianian.

"REPUBLICAN AT ALL TIMES, AND UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES."

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PROSPECTUS

OF THE

Louisianian.

In the endeavor to establish another Republican journal in New Orleans, the proprietors of the LOUISIANIAN, propose to fill a necessity which has been long, and sometimes painfully—*felt to exist*. In the transition state of our people, in their struggling efforts to attain that position in the Body Politic, which we conceive to be their due, it is regarded that much information, guidance, encouragement, counsel and reproof have been lost, in consequence of the lack of a medium, through which these deficiencies might be supplied. We shall strive to make the LOUISIANIAN a *desideratum* in these respects.

POLICY.

As our motto indicates, the LOUISIANIAN shall be "*Republican at all times and under all circumstances*" We shall advocate the security and enjoyment of broad civil liberty, the absolute equality of all men before the law, and an impartial distribution of honor and patronage to all who merit them.

Desirous of allaying animosities, of obliterating the memory of the bitter past, of promoting harmony and union among all classes and between all interests, we shall advocate the removal of all political disabilities, foster kindness and forbearance, where malignity and resentment reigned, and seek for fairness and justice where wrong and oppression prevailed. Thus united in our aims and objects, we shall conserve our best interests, elevate our noble State, to an enviable position among her sister States, by the development of her illimitable resources, and secure the full benefits of the mighty changes in the history and condition of the people and the Country.

Believing that there can be no true liberty without the supremacy of law, we shall urge a strict and undiscriminating administration of justice.

TAXATION.

We shall support the doctrine of an equitable division of taxation among all classes, a faithful collection of the revenues, economy in the expenditures, conformably with the exigencies of the State or Country and the discharge of every legitimate obligation.

EDUCATION.

We shall sustain the carrying out of the provisions of the act establishing our common school system, and urge as a paramount duty the education of our youth, as vitally connected with their own enlightenment, and the security and stability of a Republican Government.

FINAL.

By a generous, manly, independent, and judicious conduct, we shall strive to rescue our paper, from an ephemeral, and temporary existence, and establish it upon a basis, that if we cannot "command," we shall at all events "deserve" success.

ALBERT EYRICH,

Bookseller and Stationer

130 CANAL STREET,

New Orleans, Louisiana.

POETRY.

A WORKMAN'S WOOING.

I know that my hands may be hard and rough,
That my cheeks may be worn and pale,
But my heart is made of a good sound stuff,
That will never falter or fail;
And though in the world with my mates I stand
To share in the battle of life,
I take thee, my girl, by the dainty hand,
As my own, my sweet, bonny wife.

Though never a jewel wreath may span
The curls on thy beautiful brow,
I'll pledge thee my heart and troth like a man,
And love thee forever as now.
And though the bright dreams of love's sunny prime
Too often the future belie,
The steep hills of life together we'll climb,
And conquer our fate—thou and I.

My coat may be poor, my words may be few,
Yet there's never an ermined king,
Can offer a queen a present more true
Than mine of a heart and a ring:
That tiny gold link with which we may bind
Our fortunes in one common bond,
And rear us a home where happiness shrined
May dwell with affection most fond.

What more would we seek? What more would we have?
What more could fair nature bestow,
If, of all her rich gifts we ventured to crave
The richest that mortals may know?
For aye, dearest girl, shall our wedded love
Flash star-like, atop of our life,
And never will I a base traitor prove
To my heart, my home, or my wife.

STATUS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

[CONCLUDED FROM LAST NUMBER.]

Mr. Ray—I venture to assert that since the organization of our national government, in 1774, there has never been an extra session of any Legislature called during the time it was in regular session.

Mr. Campbell—The Senator has not answered my question. I asked him whether in all his varied and extensive reading so extraordinary an occasion as this had ever attracted his attention. Now, Mr. President, the Governor, in the exercise of the discretion vested in him by this article of the constitution, and in accordance with what I believe is the almost unanimous judgment of the people of the State, whether they be his friends or foes, called an extraordinary session of the General Assembly. If he had not done this, I do not believe his administration would have lasted more than twenty-four hours.

Mr. Ray—What is the reason it would not have lasted twenty-four hours?

Mr. Campbell—Because when the revolution was fairly in progress they intended to remove Governor Warmoth in some way, one branch of the conspiracy wishing to put George W. Carter in his place, and the other branch desiring a Democratic Governor. Some spoke of removing his excellency by assassination, some by mob violence or a general calling together of everybody, and some by impeachment.

Mr. Ray—But what is at the bottom of this thing?

Mr. Cambell—The bottom is what I have stated; the Senator (Mr. Ray) can give *his* ideas of it afterward. The Governor, I say, convened the General Assembly in extra session. The only point of any importance that the Senator can make is that the House and Senate having met on that day and adjourned to the next day, the Governor could not an extra session in the interval. Can the Senator point to anything in the constitution forbidding it? No; he has no reason for entertaining such an opinion, and when he was asked by a Senator (Mr. McMillen) whether, if something *very* extraordinary should happen in the interval between the adjournment and the subsequent meeting, the Governor would not have a right to call the extra session his reply was that the proposition was absurd. That may be a very easy way of replying to a proposition, but I submit that it is not a very powerful constitutional way of disposing of legal points. Many things might have happened during those twenty-four hours which would have justified the Governor in calling the extra session. As a Senator suggested, a fire might take place, the Capitol might be destroyed, a mob might be engaged in a serious riot, an epidemic might suddenly break out, an invasion might be made—any of these events would justify the Governor in calling an extra session between the hour of adjournment on one day and the hour of meeting on the next. The Senator may ask, was this such an extraordinary occasion? We reply that the one to judge of that is he who called the extra session. He was vested with that power, and he considered this one of those extraordinary occasions which justified him in the step he took.

I assert here that of all the extraordinary occasions which have been suggested as justifying the convoking of the General Assembly in extraordinary session, this cause was the most extraordinary, the most urgent and most complete justification of the call. If the Governor had sat quietly by, looking on at threatened and actual revolution, violence and anarchy, he would have failed in his sworn duty as the chief executive of the State—have been criminally derelict in his care of the public peace and well-being, and been condemned by all good citizens.

I wish to call the attention of the Senator also to the fact that the Legislature was not in session, as there had not been a quorum in the Senate.

Mr. O'Hara—You say there was a regular session of the Legislature called. Now, I would like to know whether the Senate is in regular or extra session now?

Mr. Campbell—The Senate is in regular session. In that extra session, according to the journal of the House, which I hold in my hand, fifty-five members were present, and among them were those Representatives who, as the Senator (Mr. Ray) admits, had been illegally expelled or unseated at a time when certain members of the House were held in duress by the United States marshal. The House of Representatives then proceeded, after declaring the reasons for their action to declare the seat of Mr. Carter vacant, and to elect Mr. Brewster Speaker. That was carried by a vote of forty-eight to eight, fifty-seven members being present during the whole extra session, and that action has been recognized as valid by the House at subsequent sessions when from fifty-five to sixty-six members were present. Now, the law is that a majority of the members sitting in the place appointed by law are the House of Representatives, and I contend that, no matter whether the action of the extra session was legal or illegal, it was made binding upon the House by the subsequent ratification of a regular and legal quorum. I hold that if doubts existed even up to this day as to the validity of the action of that extra session, the House of Representatives could to-morrow by fatifying, approving and confirming it, make it legal and binding, and declare the Speaker then elected the legal Speaker of the House. The pretension of Mr. Carter that he can go to the Gem saloon and act as Speaker, after fifty-five or sixty of the regularly elected members have removed him from that office, is absurd, and had it not been for the development of this formidable conspiracy in our midst, the proposition would not have met with any serious consideration in the community.

Mr. Ray—Suppose sixty or seventy members had gone with Mr. Carter to the Gem saloon and organized themselves, would they not have been the legal House of Representatives?

Mr. Campbell—The constitution prescribes the place where they shall meet. If you had had a majority of the Senators on board the "Wilderness" or over the Cosmopolitan club room, I do not think you could properly have called yourselves the Senate.

Mr. Ray—You have already said that wherever a quorum was collected it constituted the House of Representatives.

Mr. Campbell—The Senator misapprehended my argument. I said that a majority sitting in the place prescribed by the constitution was the House of Representatives.

Mr. Ray—Then, in your opinion, it is the place of meeting and not the majority of members present that constitutes the House of Representatives?

Mr. Campbell—Both are essential to constitute the House of Representatives. In other words, in order to break down the State government you can not get a majority of the General Assembly and transfer them to Concordia parish, or on board a revenue cutter, to act there as a Legislature. You must have them assembled in the locality prescribed by the constitution and where they generally meet.

Mr. Ray—Will you refer me to any law or constitutional article which requires that?

Mr. Campbell—I hold that the article which requires the Legislature to meet at the seat of government covers that fully. It does not say they can meet at any city or town or village in the State. It uses the word "place." This State House is the regular "place" of meeting.

Mr. Blackman—What makes it so? Was not the bank on Royal street also the regular place of meeting?

Mr. Campbell—The Legislature agreed to meet there, but until it does decide to go elsewhere, this is the constitutional place of meeting. If you want to go away, there is no doubt you can go; but you must declare your intention to do so; you must pass a law to that effect; you can not steal away without our knowing it. The article was placed in the constitution for the purpose of preventing a mere majority from stealing away and organizing elsewhere and transacting business while the minority are looking for them.

Mr. Sypher—Suppose the State House should burn down to-night; where would we meet to-morrow?—right here?

Mr. Campbell—There should be a law passed by the Legislature providing for the removal. Now, as to the right of the Governor to call the extra session. I understand that the Supreme Court has laid down the doctrine that "a legislative body is competent to enact any legislation not prohibited by the constitution." I ask the Senator from Ouachita (Mr. Ray) to point out to me in the constitution anything which prohibits the Governor from calling an extra session of the General Assembly.

Mr. Blackman—The executive is not a "legislative body." Our complaint is that he is assuming prerogatives which the legislative department can alone exercise.

Mr. Campbell—Show me an article in the constitution which prohibits the Legislature from convening when so called in extra session by the Governor, or which prescribes that when convened or organized under such a proclamation it is not a legal Legislature and can not enact laws. The Senator (Mr. Ray) made the point yesterday that the Governor had no such power because it was not especially give to him in the constitution. I ask where does the constitution forbid it?

Mr. Ray—The Governor has no powers except those specially conferred upon him in the constitution and laws of the State. The Legislature, on the contrary, is only limited by the prohibitory clauses of the constitution. Article sixty-four is the only authority under which his excellency can act in calling an extra session of the General Assembly.

Mr. Campbell—But when the Legislature has convened under the proclamation and is recognized by the Governor would not any action it may take be legal and binding?

Mr. Ray—They can not ratify the action of an executive officer which has not been performed in accordance with the constitution.

Mr. Campbell—That brings the proposition down to the naked question, where the discretion of deciding what is an extraordinary occasion sufficient to justify a called session is vested. I hold that it is exclusively vested in the Governor.

Mr. Ray—I say that the General Assembly can not convene except at the time prescribed by the constitution, or unless it is called together by the Governor could not call an extra session, and, any meeting of the Legislature, except at the regular time, would be illegal.

Mr. McMillen—I understand the Senator from Ouachita (Mr. Ray) to concede the point that the Governor has a right to call the General Assembly together in extra session.

Mr. Ray—Yes, but not while the General Assembly is in regular session.

Mr. McMillen—The General Assembly was not in session. The Governor had received no official notification to that effect.

Mr. Blackman—The position I take is this: The constitution provides that the General Assembly may remain in session sixty days, and that neither House shall adjourn for a longer time than three days without the consent of the other. I maintain that we are in continual session during the sixty days, and that our adjournments from day to day are merely recesses, unless both houses decide to adjourn.

Mr. Campbell—I can not see any potency in that argument. I contend that whatever might have been the illegality or unconstitutionality of the extra session, the fact that a quorum of the House of Representatives, sitting in regular session, afterward ratified and confirmed the action of that extra session, makes it legal and binding. Senators will remember that while the English Parliament was in session, in the reign of Chales I., and a discussion was in progress in relation to the levying of tonnage and poundage, the King sent in his writ proroguing or dissolving Parliament. The question pending was whether the resolution should pass, making an inquiry into the disposition of the money thus collected by the King, and just as the Speaker of the House of Commons, Sir John Finch, had declared that he had received the King's command and was leaving the chair, two members stepped up and, laying violent hands upon him, forcibly declared him in his seat until the resolution passed. Although those two men were imprisoned in the Tower for their revolutionary conduct, yet ne one ever doubted the legality of the passage of that resolution. Whatever the House agrees to and afterward confirms is legal and binding no matter whether the original action was performed in a revolutionary manner.

Mr. Thompson—I will ask the Senator whether he does not refer to the rump parliament?

Mr. Campbell—The Senator has forgotten his history; this occurred before the days of the rump parliament. Now, Mr. President, to conclude; I charge that the most dangerous part of this conspiracy was the complicity of the Federal officials here. I ask the Senators who have had an opportunity of knowing, whether the United States government sanctions or in any way countenances the action of these officials here in interfering with the affairs of the State government and in using the processes of their courts and their official power in aiding to overthrow the regularly constituted State authorities. If the President of the United States does not know these facts, I hope he will be informed of them by a resolution of the General Assembly, so that the people of the United States may ask him whether, when the occasion arises, he will countenance such action on the part of his appointees elsewhere. If Mr. Grant, through his appointees, can come into the legislative department of a State government, and, by the use of such means as have been used in this city, secure its overthrow, I say there is no reason in the world why he can not revolutionize every State government in the Union. If, he sits in his chair at Washington, after listening to the statement of these facts, and does not say openly and above board, to the people of the United States, that he does not approve of the conduct of his officials here, I charge that he did know of it, did approve of it, and did desire that his appointees should act as they have acted.

If Senators, after having witnessed these monstrous wrongs, do not state to the people of the country, in their Senatorial places, that they disapprove of and condemn them, they will simply be placing into the hands of a terrible power a club which some day will be used to break their own heads. I tell you, gentlemen, that a more centralized, despotic power has never yet been known in the history of the world than that which is slowly but surely accumulating in the hands of the federal government. In every way in its power, by supporting one faction at one time and another faction at another time, by the use of all those means which history teaches us men use in order to gain power, the federal government is gradually and stealthily working for the attainment of that end. I ask Senators, no matter what their political views, to observe how the officials of the United States government—United States marshals, United States collectors, United States army officers—by the processes of United States courts, have undertaken to revolutionize our State government. I say that the people of this State and country would indorse a manly, outspoken protest on our part against the outrageous and violent interference of the United States government in the affairs of this General Assembly. I have not anything further to say upon this subject. As I said before, the whole question is as to whether there were good reasons for calling the General Assembly together in extra session, and I think no unbiased person, cognizant of the real facts of the case, will pronounce the Governor's action in that respect unnecessary or unjustifiable.

Mr. Sypher—The Senator from Orleans (Mr. Campbell) thought he "smelt a mice" when that paper was presented yesterday, but after hearing it read, and thinking over it, he came to the conclusion that it was not so bad as it appeared to be at first. The only thing I regret is that I have not an opportunity to sign it again. The gentlemen argues, and with great force, too, that the Governor had a right to call the the extra session. Of that I shall not say anything. As far as I am personally concerned I am trying to carry out the desires and wishes of my constituents, and I do not want the Senator from the Second District (Mr. Campbell), nor any other Senator, nor the executive of the State, to dictate to me how I shall do so. I am in constant correspondence with some of my constituents, and I am satisfied I am carrying out their instructions. I hear a great deal of talk about the United States officials, and I think they have taken a little more rope than they ought to have had. These late occurrences, however, were not the commencement of this fight. It commenced in 1868, when our distinguished late Lieutenant Governor, Oscar J. Dunn, was elected President of the State Central Committee. Some of the parties who are now acting with the Governor denounced him then. My object is reform, and that has been the cry

[CONTINUED ON FOURTH PAGE.]

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SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4, 1872.

TO OUR CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

We will be glad if you notify our office of any delinquency on the part of our carrier, as our arrangements are such that every issue of our paper should be regularly delivered.

☞We have several times pronounced the charges in the *National Fag* against Mr. Pinchback as lies. As they were repeated in a recent editorial of that paper, after this anouncement the inference is plain.

☞Schumacher now resorts to begging the House for admission. This is proper. The man who could consent to the base design of using a court of justice as a tool to compass political ends and reduce a majority against him by putting the members in jail, can expect political vengeance. Contrition in his proper garb. But his regrets are crocodile tears.

☞Pitkin wails in the *Fag* against Hon. Mr. Speer for spearing Marshal Packard and pinning him to the wall with his questions, which were like the use of a battery bearing and beating down all before it.

PRIZE FIGHT FIZZLE.—Rumor had it that Tom Allen and Mike McCoole were to have a fight; but they have an obstacle which it seems neither of them is inclined to remove. Allen refuses to fight for less than $2,500, while McCoole will not fight for more than $1,000.

☞"Law is accepted to be a rule of 'Civil Conduct.'"—Cheste'rs speech.

If that is the case, T. Morris Chester must be an outlaw.

WARD ELECTION.—The Republican Mother Club of the Third Ward held an election yesterday for the election of President and all other officers of the Club. The polls opened at 6 A. M., and the contest was a lively one all day, and closed at 6 P. M. Up to the time of going to press we have not learned the result.

THANKS.—We return our thanks to Secretary of State, General F. J. Herron, for a copy of his Report, embracing the report of the State Librarian to the Secretary of State to the Governor of Louisiana.

PACKARD BEFORE THE COMMITTEE.

The Honorable Mr. Speer is truly named. He spitted Marshal Packard on his questions in the Congressional Committee and brought out an admission of every point against the Federal officials and so quietly that Packard himself was not conscious even of the admission. If there is one thing more noted than another in the composition of Packard's mind it is effrontery. The idea that the Marshal's office nets him "scarcely anything" in other words that he is getting poor on it is ridiculous. The true cause in the divisions of the party is that Packard desired to make the State his dung-hill. In the convention Judge Cooley and Wickliffe beat him. In the political convention of 1870 he was beaten again. Which is the more blameable, a State official using his office to protect his party, or a Federal official using his office, its prerogatives and powers to destroy the influence of his political opponents? Can Marshal Packard fling a stone in this direction? We think not. It is now in the history of the country that Messrs. Casey and Packard, by their own admissions, wilfully ordered to be used, and used the people's building, the people's navy, the people's army, the people's revenue patronage, for no other purpose under God's heaven than the pitiful and contemptible design of compassing the political annihilation of their opponents. So stand these Federal officials before the country. With a brazen face and all the boldnes of successful turpitude, Casey, Packard & Co. stand the confessed perpetrators of misdemeanors in the public service, which in any other country would hold them up to public scorn and make them recipients of the people's indignation.

☞If the calm way in which Governor Warmoth has administered the police meets with opposition from Chester, what would be the result should he follow this man's advice of imprisoning those who violate the Civil Rights Bill? Hot-headed demagogues are not particularly incidental to the South. Mr. Chester, we believe is from Pennsylvania.

☞The *Picayune* has changed proprietors during the past week. This journal is now owned by a large number of wealthy and influential merchants and business men of New Orleans. It is now styled "the people's paper," and we suppose from this that the "people" are to understand there will be a "new departure" as contrasted with its policy hitherto. But if it be true that Mr. Daniel Dennett, late of the *Planters' Banner*, is the editor we don't believe there will be much danger of the speedy advent of the political millenium. One great "reform" has been introduced by the new owners, the price of the paper is five cents per copy instead of ten cents.

TOO THIN.—The *Fags* of the Customhouse writhing under the searching enquiries into their iniquities by the Congressional Committee have resolved to divert attention from themselves for a while and direct it towards the Legislature. A move is on foot we understand to summon nearly all of the members so as to consume the time of the Committee and thus prevent the revelations of many a dark doing.

We believe the Committee will perceive the object and defeat the dodge. It is too thin.

☞We had the pleasure of a brief but welcome call yesterday from Hon. G. T. Ruby, one of the members of the Senate of the State of Texas. Also from Andrew J. Gordon Esq., of Chicago, who many of our readers will remember was one of the editors of the *Black Republican*, a newspaper started by colored men in this city in the early days of their enfranchisement. Mr. Gordon is on a visit to New Orleans.

☞"Our first duty is to help ourselves."—Burch's speech.

That the Governor defeated Burch's crowd from helping themselves to the State money, is the sole cause of this so-called "split in the Republican party."

☞The only question Casey asked the members of the Congressional Committee: "Are you for Grant?"

ST. JAMES CHAPEL.

Elsewhere in our present issue are reported the remarkable proceedings which occurred in this House of worship last Thursday evening, and we have but little to add in this place. We cannot avoid, however, expressing the earnest hope that the Ministers of this Church will henceforward "set their faces like a flint" against the use of their place of Worship for political purposes. The city abounds in halls and club rooms where meetings can be held and speeches made, and we admonish the controllers of the St. James that it is high time their Church was taken completely and forever out of politics, and everything relating to it. We do not enlarge on this topic here because we believe from the assurances received by the ministers and by the gentlemen who promoted the meeting, that the conversion of the proceedings of Thursday into a ward wrangle, was a deliberate breach of pledged faith. But "prevention is better than cure," and we hope that it may not fall to our lot to record another such desecration of a building devoted exclusively to religious uses.

MARDI GRAS.

His majesty the King of the Mardi Gras Carnival which comes off on February 13, has issued several edicts to those who propose to appear on the streets that day, as to the best method of making the display pleasurable and orderly. The police have been instructed in their duties that day; the Mayor and Council have been told what they are expected to do in the premises, and yesterday mornings papers contain the latest exercise of the authority temporarily assumed.

The following edicts were yesterday promulgated by His Royal Highness :

EDICT II.

To His Excellency, the Governor of the State of Louisiana :

In order to avoid any unpleasant complications which might arise through conflict of authority, you are hereby directed to close your office on Mardi Gras, between the hours of 3 P. M., and sundown, and during that period to refrain from the exercise, or attempt to exercise, any gubernatorial privileges or duties.

Further—In order to better preserve the peace and maintain the dignity of the realm, you are also directed to disperse that riotious body known as the Louisiana State Legislature, and close their halls of meeting during the same period of time.

A prompt acknowledgement of your Excellency's submission will be esteemed a favor.

Given under our hand and seal at Carnival Palace, on this the 2d of February, 1872. REX.

STATE OF LOUISIANA, EXECUTIVE DEPT., New Orleans, February 2, 1872.

To His Royal Highness the King of the Carnival :

The Governor of the State of Louisiana entertaining the highest regard for your Majesty's person and authority, will feel honored in obeying your royal mandate as far as lies in his power.

He regrets that his influence with the State Legislature is not sufficient to control their action to the extent demanded, but will cheerfully transmit to that body your Majesty's gracious communication.

With a high sense of the honor conferred he remains obediently,

H. C. WARMOTH,
Governor of Louisiana.

Snbsequent to the occurrence of the above important correspondence, His Majesty was pleased to order the promulgation of the following :

EDICT III.

To all Whom it May Concern—Greeting :

In view of numerous petitions laid at the foot of the throne—all to the following tenor :

NEW ORLEANS, FEB. 1, 1872.

Your Majesty would confer a great favor on a large number of employees if you could succeed in having business suspended on the evening when your dictum will be the acknowledged law of the city. Wishing you abundance of fun, and hoping through your aid to be able to assist in the frolic, I remain your subject, EMPLOYEE.

Now, therefore, we, "the King of the Carnival," do hereby order and ordain, That "all private places of business in this city be closed at one o'clock P. M., on Tuesday, February 13, 1872, (old Probabilities permitting ;) so that none of our beloved subjects may be debarred from participating in the honors to be accorded their liege Sovereign.

Given under our hand and seal at Carnival Palace, this the 2d day of February, 1872. REX.

There is no doubt that the amusements will this year be conducted on a grand and more orderly style than has obtained latterly. The mythical sovereign of this revel will doubtless be quietly obeyed.

ANOTHER MASS MEETING FIZZLE!

SET CLUB SPEECH IN A CHURCH

Civil Rights Ignored!!

Attack on Gov. Warmoth and his Friends!

MINISTERS AND AUDIENCE DISGUSTED!

REFUSAL OF ORATORS TO SPEAK.

Early Break Up of the Meeting!!

For several days the Customhouse organ kept up notifying its readers that there would be a "GRAND MASS MEETING held in the Methodist Church, on Roman street, on Thursday Evening, February 1st," for the purpose of hearing appropriate addresses, and signing a petition to Congress urging the passage of the bill known as Mr. Sumner's Supplementary Civil Rights Bill. Certain speakers were announced; and on Thursday pains were taken to say that the "Congressional Investigating Committee" might be expected to attend.

Identified, and most cordially sympathizing with the movement, we put in our appearance at the proper time, and found the building already crowded with a large and respectable audience of ladies and gentlemen.

Mr. T. De S. Tucker called the meeting to order, and suggested the selection of Hon. J. Henri Burch as president which was acquiesced in.

Mr. Burch took the Chair, and requested Bishop Brown to open the proceedings with prayer, after which, on motion of Mr. Tucker, Wm. G. Brown, who was in the audience, was requested to act as Secretary.

Around the stand were Senator J. H. Ingraham; Bishops Shorter, and Brown; Elders Thomas, Young and several others, whose presence in the city is attributable to the fact that their Ecclesiastical duties call them here in conference.

The President briefly stated the object of the meeting to be to unite with other States in urging upon Congress the passing of Mr. Sumner's Supplementary Civil Rights Bill, and illustrated his position by the perusal of Mr. Sumner's letter to the South Carolina Convention, [and which we published some time since,] and in further illustration of his object, the Secretary was requested to read the bill itself (which we published last week.)

During the reading of the above Lieutenant Governor Pinchback entered and took a seat among the audience, which he exchanged for a seat on the platform at the urgent request of the President. Mr. J. Sella Martin was shortly after invited to a seat also on the stand.

The first Speaker called on was Mr. T. Morris Chester. This gentleman started out with a remarkably laudatory account of himself and his sufferings "for the people's cause" in the State of Louisiana and declared his readiness for martyrdom if necessary. He then soared into the region of abstract statements and vague generalities, coming home on a gross and unbecoming attack on Governor Warmoth, violently shocking the moral sensibilities of his audience, and the proprieties of the occasion, and the terms on which we understand the building was lent. Indeed so improper was the thorough divergence from the object of the meeting, and so evidently provocative of political discussion, that two or three times some of the Elders drew the President's attention to the matter. But yet for nearly two hours was the patience of the people imposed on. At the conclusion of this tirade, the other orators declined to speak. They saw the dissatisfaction, and felt the affront that had been so gratuitously offered. Mr. Burch rose and deplored deeply the unexpected and decidedly reprehensible course which had been pursued. He said :

After what had been said by the gentleman on some points, he should feel that he had allowed injustice to be done toward some persons unless he said something—injustice first to the colored members of the Legislature, and secondly, to Governor Warmoth. The audience came here to discuss Senator Sumner's Civil Rights bill, and he had hoped more would have been said on that subject. If there has been any failure to enforce existing laws, or to enact proper laws on the subject of civil rights, the blame could not be put upon the colored members of the Legislature. In this community, and before this audience it was not necessary for him to say that he was no apologist for Governor Warmoth, and yet it was only just to say that if the civil rights of the colored people of this State were not enforced it was not Governor Warmoth's fault. It is our own fault and not his. The wrong lies deeper; it is all over the nation. I have traveled all over the United States, and nowhere have I been protected in, or enjoyed equal rights. What we want is Senator Sumner's bill, and when it is passed it will do for us what the gentleman says Governor Warmoth should do. Governor Warmoth says to you just what Sumner says: Help yourselves, and then others will help you. If I choose to go into a pen in some theatre, I don't blame Governor Warmoth for it. What we want is a national measure which shall be operative everywhere.

At the conclusion of Mr. Burch's remarks, Lieutenant Governor Pinchback was called for. Mr. Pinchback expressed his amazement at the course pursued by Mr. Chester, and the endeavor to convert a meeting, such as was called, and in the place it was, into a polical ward club gathering. That as it had been done and remarks were made alleging great blame against Governor Warmoth and his friends, he would rise to a brief personal explanation. He then briefly and pointedly disposed of the pyramid of silly objections raised against Governor Warmoth, eliciting loud applause when he referred to Mr. Chester's complaint that Governor Warmoth should take his police and arrest every one who does not accord civil rights to every colored man on application, by saying if this was good argument against the Governor, it appeared more applicable against the President, who was far more powerful than the Governor; "why don't the President by these means enforce the Civil Rights bill all over the country?" The speaker concluded with a deep regret at the turn of things, and hoped the blame would be placed where it belongs.

At the conclusion of these remarks, Mr. Tucker rose and said he regretted that the object of the meeting had been entirely lost sight of, and the character both of the assemblage and the building outraged and insulted. That he held in his hand a set of resolutions which he would offer with the exception of one, which, from the feeling evoked, and the evident temper of the assemblage he would omit. These are the

RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas, We regard the passage of the Supplementary Civil Rights Bill introduced by Hon. Charles Sumner into the United States Senate as the crowning act of the complete investment of citizens of African descent with all rights in common with their white fellow-citizens; and

Whereas, It is not only politic, but sound statesmanship, that the last semblance of legal prejudice, either of a positive or negative nature, against color, should be erased from our State and National laws; be it therefore

Resolved, That we ask of Congress as a matter of simple justice to the colored people, and to the welfare of the country, the enactment of the Supplementary Civil Rights bill.

Resolved, That in view of the dereliction of the State Governments, especially those of the South, to enforce the civil rights and privileges of the colored citizens before the law, we hold that Congress will be fully justified in the passage of the above bill.

Resolved, That we deprecate the efforts of the white people of the South in continuing the spirit of caste, by denying to the colored people the enjoyment of civil rights, by force of white public sentiment, in violation of the constitution of the nation, of the State, and the laws made in conformity therewith.

Resolved, That our thanks are hereby tendered to the Hon. Charles Sumner, for his ardent advocacy of the Supplementary Civil Rights bill, and also to President Grant, for his official friendship for our race, in the impartial execution of our civil and political rights.

They were then unanimously adopted, amid loud applause. At the conclusion the audience were invited to come forward and sign their names to a list which was prepared, and they did so with much zeal.

And the audience thinned out, expressions of disapproval of the course of Mr. Chester, and regrets at the failure of the move openly expressed by the disappointed audience.

☞The House of Representatives adjourned on Friday last to Monday, February 5th, in order that members of committees may be enabled to meet during Saturday and dispose of some of the large number of bills now before them.

"THE MAN OF NERVE, AND THE NERVOUS MAN."

In the play from which we have borrowed our tittle, if we mistake not, the nervous man was thought to be a man of nerve, and the man of nerve was thought to be a nervous man until the sequal of the story revealed the mistake. The man of nerve was so brimful of sympathies that every critical situation made him tremble with anxiety for the safety of others though his own heart was firm with every impulse of manhood, while the nervous man appeared to be cool amid the most appalling dangers for the reason that selfishness and fear were constantly suggesting expedients for securing his own safety.

These characters have had their political counterpart in our State within the last week or so, except that the melodrama changed some of its features for that of tragedy, when young Wheyland was ruthlessly assassinated in the streets of New Orleans.

Our political opponents have been wont to make merry over the charge that Gov. Warmoth thinks discretion the better part of valor, while the disorganizers in our own ranks have been loud and extravagant in their eulogies of George W. Carter for his bravery. It was boasted by them that during the four years of the war the enemy never saw Mr. Carter's back, and asserted that Warmoth's enemy but seldom saw his face, hence the Governor was set down as the nervous man, and the late Speaker of the House commended as the man of nerve: here comes the sequel.

On the first day of January, when the House of Representatives assembled, Gov. Warmoth occupied the usual executive departments, surrounded by no other force than his private secretary and his janitor, giving free access to all important visitors and granting an easy egress to all who desired to leave, without questions or surveilance of any kind. Anxious that the community should not be disturbed by the presence either of a large police force or that of military companies he transacted his usual business unsurrounded by the revolvers of policemen or the bayonets of the militia though he had reason to suspect, and the sequel sustains such a suspicion that Carter's thugs and assassins would have sought the slightest provocation to take his life. He knew that the business of that holiday season and the continuation of those social ammenities that belong to it, and the quietude of the community and the rules of order under which it rests, all hung upon the display of composure in his deportment and nerve in his administration—that is the so-called nervous man.

Now mark the conduct of Col. Carter, the so-called man of nerve. He came to the House of Representatives on the same day surrounded not only by his immediate followers in the band of disorganizers, but flanked by a Democratic following composed of some men as worthless, as unscrupulous and as ragged as Falstaff's famous army, and of other fossil self-important and punctillous Democrats, as pretentious as Sir Huddleston Fuddleson. The agitation of his nerves needed not only the reassuring arrangement of a false award of seats by which he placed his henchmen of the Legislature nearest to him, but it was needful that all the time twenty outsiders should hold revel in his own private room, screwing their courage to the sticking point by large potations of rye and bourbon in case the man of nerve should need them—these facts, we hope, will forever set at rest the rival claims of the nervous man and the man of nerve.

In all seriousness, let us say that a man who, like George W. Carter, arrests his opponent by illegal processes and steals the advantage of his absence to do a deed which he would not dare do in his presence, who swears in five hundred sergeants-at-arms to protect him in his seat, and sets three of them upon one of his opponents, two of them to hold him in front, while the third shoots him from behind, who fills two or three armories with as many mobs armed with every species of deadly weapons to bolster his ambitions designs and to fortify his quivering nerves, must abandon forever all claim to be a man of nerve, especially when it is added that he has taken safety in flight.

Let but our people sustain the conduct of Governor Warmoth, who has mingled unwavering resolution with prudence and ——— and held in check the exasperating feeling of his followers and acts of indignity and violence calculated to fan them to a flame and who has rendered as full an obedience to law as his exactions to its terms have been firm and manly and they will eventually ascertain to their entire satisfaction the difference between a nervous man and a man of nerve.—*Shreveport Republican.*

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION BILL.

The untiring zeal and industry of our able Representative, the Hon. L. W. Perce, has again brought him prominently before the American people as one of the champions of the National Education Bill. The bill proposes to devote the proceeds of the sale of all the public lands to an educational fund to be distributed through all the States in proportion to population. The bill is meeting opposition in Congress from the Democratic wing, who imagine they see another scheme of Radical plunder in the measure. These old fossilized hankerers after the "fleshpots of Egypt," think they see another "chicksaw school fund." Their summary way of disposing of surplus school funds will, no doubt, commend itself to Congress and may be the means of placing the National School fund in the hands of the "party of honesty" for disbursement, if the bill should pass.

THE WHITE MASONS OF NEW JERSEY.

Justice Triumphant.

The Philadelphia *Press* has the following very brief notice of a very important transaction:

The New Jersey Grand Lodge of Masons, in session at Trenton, was occupied during the whole of Wednesday in discussing the action of Grand Master Pine in revoking the charter of Alpha Lodge, of Newark, because it proposed to admit a negro to membership. A number of able and stirring speeches were made on the subject, mainly in opposition to the action of the Grand Master. Several distinguished representatives of both political parties spoke with great emphasis in favor of re-instating the lodge, and the vote being taken this result was reached, the charter being ordered by a vote of 112 to 103 to be restored. Hereafter, in New Jersey at least, the black man will be admitted to this order upon an equal footing with the white.

The Nashua (N.H.) *Gazette* says a young lady of that city, who has been studying law for a year, has madi application for admission to the Law School of Harvard University, and the subject is now under the consideration of the controlling authorities of that institution. This is the first application of the kiud that has ever been in this department of the university. An application of a similar character was made a year ago for admission to the medical depart, but it was rejected.

—"Hallo, Jake, where did you buy those fish?"

"I didn't buy 'em!"

"Well, where did you get them?"

"I hooked 'em."

CUBAN BELLIGERENCE.

There has been some feeling of hostility to Spain developed by the murder of the students at Havana, and Mr. Cox, of New York, has introduced in Congress resolutions of recognition of Cuban belligerence. But however deeply so wanton a crime as the massacre of the students may stir the foreign reader, and however urgent may be the duty of our government to insist upon the amplest protection of our citizens in Cuba, the concession of belligerent rights, or, in Mr. Sumner's phrase, belligerence, is another question. It is, indeed, the question which Burke asked of the sheriffs of Bristol a hundred years ago in reference to the American colonies—whether they should enjoy the benefits of the law of nations. It is the question to which a famous reply was made by Sir James Mackintosh, in his speech upon the recognition of the independence of the Spanish-American colonies. He said that independence was not as

ght to be determined by reason, t a fact to be settled by evidence, e then produced evidence that the rces of Spain were reduced to a ndful of men, and that the Span- flag flew from one fort only; and insisted that, in fact, Spain had t control of the colonies, that re was no actual contest, and t there was an operative inde- ndent government.

A few years later, during the Greek volution, Mr. Canning, in his fam- dispatch to the British minister Constantinople, went a step fur- r. He said that belligerence, independence, was a fact; and t, when a party in a war had no prize courts, and could not admin- ister justice upon the ocean, but must destroy its prizes, then belli- gerency, in the true sense, was not fact, and could not therefore, be recognized. This was a doctrine ar to every natural, and therefore to us, who are so generally neutral; d it was this doctrine upon which Sumner insisted in his speech inst the Johnson treaty. It is, deed, a principle which can gov- national action. When civil war another country arises, or when colony attempts to throw off the government of a parent country, the question is simply, not what our feelings are, but what the situation is. In the United States, for in- stance, our feelings are always with the oppressed every where. But we do not, therefore, perpetually proceed to right wrongs every where by force, knowing that if we did so other nations could do the same, and that we should relapse into barbarism.

Meanwhile, of course, we reserve and assert the right of recognizing belligerency when we choose. That is indisputable. But the important question is, upon what principle shall we choose? Shall it be that we wish well to one side and not to the other, or that we think they have both fought long enough, or that there is doubt whether an in- surrection can be suppressed? Ob- viously there is no principle here; there is not fact. We may assert that under American principles every people ought to govern itself. Shall we, therefore, recognize the belligerence of Ireland? Or we may assert that every people has a right to independence. Shall we, therefore, try to thrust France out of Algeria? If we found recogni- tion of belligerence upon abstract rights, there can never be a definite ground of action.

Now a fact can be established by evidence, and when it is proposed to begin the recognition of the in- dependence of Cuba—for the con- cession of belligerence is nothing else—it is necessary to know whether the island is actually independent, or whether the hold of Spain is so relaxed that it is virtually so. The familiar fact is that the war has lasted for a long time; that Spain commands the ports; that the Cuban republic has no really opera- tive government; and that although the Volunteers have great control, they are virtually soldiers of Spain, while the only actual government upon the island is by the authority of Spain.

We have undoubtedly the right to recognize belligerence at our pleasure, but not without reason and upon principle; and the con- sideration that there has been a long war upon the island, and that there is great cruelty, may justify intervention in the name of human- ity, which is a wholly exceptional proceeding; but it does not establish the fact that there is an organized, valid government, independent of Spain, and with the power of ad- ministering justice on land and sea. [*Harper's Weekly.*

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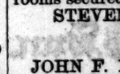

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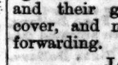

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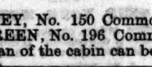

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[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.]

from all points. The disposition of some of the Senators on that question was plainly evidenced yesterday by the objections which were made to a suspension of the rules for the purpose of allowing the Senator from Ouachita (Mr. Ray) to introduce bills bearing directly upon it.

Mr. Lynch—As this discussion has taken a political turn, I was unwilling to participate in it, but as my motives, as well as those of other Senators with whom I am acting, have been impugned, I deem it my duty to defend myself. When the gentleman (Mr. Blackman) states that those Senators who are acting in opposition to him on these political questions are not prepared to act with him upon measures of reform, he states that which is not warranted by the facts. I appeal to the record of the last and previous sessions to prove that I, as well as other Senators now working with me, were ready to co-operate with him in the passage of any and every measure which looked toward the reform of existing abuses. I challenge the Senator (Mr. Blackman) to show from his record that he ever introduced a measure of that character; and yet when bills are introduced by other Senators, especially those of a political nature, the gentleman gets up and makes long speeches about the wrongs of the dear people, "my people," and denouncing everybody else in general because they do not do exactly as he directs. The gentleman says this revolution commenced in 1868, and that the State administration had been founded and sustained in revolution. I tell the Senator, in reply, that when the first shot was fired at the flag of our country on Fort Sumter, then and there the revolution commenced; then was the first effort made to overthrow the only government in the world that recognized the brotherhood of man. Allusion has been made to those who have come from distant portions of the country, among whom I have the honor to belong. I am not here by the permission of the gentleman; I am not here by his invitation. I came here as an humble soldier of the republic, to aid in establishing a government where anarchy and chaos prevailed, and where there existed a reign of terror and tyranny more terrible than that inaugurated by any of the cruel Roman emperors. Now, what is the resolution before the Senate? Simply to provide for the appointment of a committee to inform the Governor and House of Representatives that we are ready for business. If the Senator [Mr. Blackman] had been in his place on the first day of the session, and had not absented himself, with other Senators, for the purpose of breaking the quorum, this resolution would have been unanimously adopted, and we would now be transacting the business of the State regularly. If the Senator does not wish to go back to fort Sumter to trace this revolution, I tell him it began on the first day of the session of the General Assembly, when his seat and the seats of his associates were vacant.

Mr. Ragan—As we have heard enough political speeches to-day, I would advertise those who wish to speak to wait until next summer, and to expend their wind on the stump. I now call for the previous question on the adoption of the resolution.

The resolution was adopted.

Previous Opinions of Jurors.

A bill has been presented by Mr. Judd to the legislature of the State of New York which declares that, in the trial of criminal cases, "the previous formation or expression of an opinion" in respect to the issue to be tried shall not legally disqualify any person, who is otherwise qualified, to sit as a juror, provided he shall assert under oath his own competency to render an impartial verdict according to the evidence. There ought to be no necessity for such a bill in this State, or any other; and there would not be if the simplest principles of common sense had not been grossly perverted by courts of justice. According to the law in the State of New York, all male inhabitants, not exempt from serving on juries, who are twenty-one years of age or upward, and under sixty years old, who possess their natural faculties, and are not infirm and decrepit, who have a fair character, approved integrity, and a sound judgment, and are well informed, are deemed to be "suitable persons to serve as jurors." These are the qualifications expressly named by statute.

The practice, however, of the courts has been to exclude in criminal cases from the jury box all persons who have formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the accused. It is a rule of procedure having no other authority than that of judicial usage. The object of Mr. Judd's bill is to abrogate this usage, and require judges on the bench to act like sensible men. The bill ought to be passed at once, and go into effect immediately.

No man who is fit to be a juror, upon reading a detailed statement of the circumstances attending the commission of a crime, and assuming the substantial correctness thereof, can help forming some opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the party alleged to have perpetrated the deed. The opinion is a private one, growing out of the very constitution of human nature, and having no official relation or responsibility. It is also hypothetical, being built upon the assumption of a certain set of facts; and it may have various degrees of completeness, from a loose general impression to a decided conviction, provided always that the facts are as stated. In this age of newspapers and ample facilities for the circulation of information all persons of ordinary intelligence are compelled to form such opinions in respect to crimes which excite the public attention. They cannot avoid the result, except by abjuring the means of knowledge; and this they certainly should not do.

Now, does such a fact render any man intellectually or morally incompetent to be sworn as a juror, to listen carefully to the evidence submitted, to hear the arguments of the counsel, and also an exposition of the law from the lips of the judge, and then retire, and with his associates weigh the evidence, and at last come to a conclusion solely in the light of that evidence? Not at all. His previous off-hand and unstudied impression or opinion, entertained without any public responsibility, is no obstacle whatever to a righteous determination of the question of fact, provided he is an honest man; and if he is not such, then he is not very likely to confine his verdict to the evidence, whether he has any previous opinion or not. A mere opinion, formed without legal evidence, and with no personal interests to influence it, is not such a bias in its own direction as to impair the power of the evidence or to weaken the judgment in its consideration. The rule adopted by the courts on this subject is, hence, philosophically absurd; and almost all judges know it to be so, except when they sit on the bench. Then their judicial sense gets the better of their common sense.

The practical consequence of applying the rule is the exclusion from juries of the most intelligent and competent men in the community, and the commission of criminal verdicts to the adjudication of stupid ignorance. This is one of the reasons why, in murder trials, those who deserve to be hung so frequently escape the just award of law. Take the case of Cole, tried a few years since at Albany. The evidence showed a clear and palpable case of murder in the first degree; and yet the jury, under the plea of insanity in behalf of the accused, found that Cole, though sane up to the moment of the crime, and sane immediately afterward, committed the deed under "an uncontrollable impulse," and on this ground brought in a verdict of not guilty. The verdict in the case of McFarland was no better. In both cases it was contrary to evidence and contrary to justice. The law failed of its end in the hands of its sworn ministers. Such failures have become so numerous that men of murderous passions are beginning to think that "hanging is about played out." Filling the jury box with asses, instead of intelligent and sensible men, who are not to be deceived by the artifices of criminal lawyers, tends directly to promote the crime of murder, by the hope of impunity to those who commit it.

The trial of Stokes, the assassin of James Fisk, commences this week; and, if the old *regime* in respect to the qualifications of jurors is to prevail, as will probably be the fact, then several days will be consumed in making up the panel. There is hardly an intelligent man in the whole city who has not either read or heard read a statement of the facts connected with the killing of Fisk; and every such man has formed some opinion as to the question whether Stokes is guilty of murder. If all persons of this class are to be excluded from the jury, then the Court might almost as well summon the jury from among the inmates of a lunatic asylum, and thus make the farce a complete one. Trial by jury, under the stringent application of this stupid rule, is likely to be worse than a humbug, since it puts in peril the grave and solemn interests of public justice, and leaves the lives of men unprotected by the enforced sanctions of law. We protest against a practice which so directly contributes to make jury trials a sham of human ignorance, on the one hand, and of legal sophistry, on the other. The only wonder is that judges have not long since become thoroughly disgusted with it.

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